

REMARKS

Claims 2-33 were pending in this application. Claims 5, 14, 17-19, and 31-33 have been amended, claims 15, 16, and 29 have been canceled, and no new claims have been added. Therefore, 2-14, 17-28, and 30-33 remain pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration.

Applicant sincerely thanks the examiner for indicating that claims 2-13 and 31-32 are allowed. In addition, applicant notes that no prior art has been applied to claims 19-30 and 33 that were considered in the Office Action.

This amendment changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

In the Office Action, claims 14 and 18 are objected to for the reasons stated in paragraphs 2a and 2b of the Office Action. While the applicant asserts that these claims were grammatically correct, they have been amended to improve their readability and not to narrow their scope in any way. Accordingly, applicant submits that the pending claims 14 and 18 are unobjectionable.

In paragraph 2c, the Office Action objects to claims 19-30 and 33 as being duplicates of claims 2-13 and 31, respectively. In reply, applicant has amended independent claim 19 to include an additional limitation not recited in claim 2 and submit that these claims are now different in scope than claims 2-13 and 31. Furthermore, since no prior art has been applied to these claims, applicant submits that pending claims 19-28 and 30-33 are allowable over the prior art of record. In this context, it should be noted that claims 5, and 31-33 have been amended herein to correct typographical errors and not to narrow their scope in any way.

In the Office Action, claims 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by JP 08-063022 (hereafter "Hinotani"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claims 14 and 17 recite, *inter alia*, that the end-section coil and the center-section coil are alternately turned on and that a space between the coils is provided. Hinotani does not disclose or suggest this recited arrangement wherein the end-section coil and the center-section coil are alternately turned on. Specifically, Hinotani teaches that all of the coils 22 (22a, 22b,...) are simultaneously activated. Therefore, at least this recited feature is not disclosed or suggested by Hinotani. Accordingly, independent claims 14, 17, and 19 (which also recites this feature) are all patentable over the applied prior art.

The rejected dependent claims are also patentable for at least the same reasons as the respective independent claims on which they ultimately depend, either directly or indirectly. In addition, they recite additional patentable features when considered as a whole.

In view of the above, applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. An indication of the same is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 31, 2003

By Aaron C. Chakraborty

FOLEY & LARDNER

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: (202) 945-6162

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

for Pavan K. Agarwal
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 40,888

Reg # 41,398